

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20 ACDA-19 EB-11 OMB-01

CU-04 DRC-01 NIC-01 /165 W

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R 220603Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4807

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY ROME

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 15952

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH RO UR

SUBJECT: MOSCOW MEETING OF COMMUNIST SECRETARIES

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

REF: MOSCOW 15881

1. SUMMARY: IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNIST COOPERATION AND NEED
TO PUT IDEOLOGY IN SERVICE OF DETENTE WERE TWIN THEMES

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RECEIVING MOST ATTENTION IN PUBLIC SOVIET TREATMENT OF

DECEMBER 18-19 MOSCOW MEETING OF SECRETARIES OF NINE CP CENTRAL COMMITTEES. NO MENTION IS MADE OF FUTURE CP SUMMITRY, BUT THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY

2. COORDINATION THEME IS STRESSED IN BOTH COMMUNIQUE (PUBLISHED DECEMBER 20) AND IN PRAVDA ACCOUNT (DECEMBER 21) OF BREZHNEV'S RECEPTION OF GROUP. BREZHNEV WAS REPORTED AS EMPHASIZING THAT CPSU POLITIBURO ASSIGNS PRIMARY IMPORTANCE TO DEEPENING OF FRATERNAL PARTY COOPERATION IN ALL SPHERES OF PARTY WORK. COMMUNIQUE AS WELL GOES BEYOND STRICTLY IDEOLOGICAL MATTERS IN UNDERLINING DETERMINATION TO DEVELOP OVERALL BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION AMONG PARTIES.

3. COMMUNIQUE ALSO GIVES PROMINENT PLAY TO DETENTE, CITING NEED TO MOBILIZE ALL IDEOLOGICAL MEANS IN DEEPENING AND BROADENING IT. THE SOFTER LINE TOWARD IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE INTRODUCED IN BREZHNEV'S ALMA ATA SPEECH OF LAST AUGUST IS APPARENT IN COMMUNIQUE'S LISTING OF CALL FOR "DEFENDING AND SPREADING OF IDEAS OF SOCIALISM AND PEACE" IN FIRST PLACE AMONG IDEOLOGICAL TASKS. COMMUNIQUE, MOREOVER, DOES NOT ASSERT THAT EFFORTS TO SUBVERT SOCIALIST SYSTEM ARE INHERENT IN WESTERN APPROACH TO DETENTE (A FAVORITE THEME OF MOSSBACKS AMONG SOVIET PROPAGANDISTS); IT DOES, HOWEVER, CRITICIZE "IDEOLOGICAL DIVERSIONS" FROM UNNAMED SOURCES AND "ATTEMPTS BY AGGRESSIVE IMPERIALIST CIRCLES TO DESTROY DETENTE."

4. BREZHNEV'S "VICTORY THROUGH CONTACTS" APPROACH IS CLEARLY SPELLED OUT IN PRAVDA ACCOUNT OF HIS MEETING WITH PARTICIPANTS. HE EMPHASIZED IN FOLLOWING ORDER: (1) "PROPAGANDIZING OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF REAL SOCIALISM AND OF FOREIGN POLICY OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TOWARD DEFENSE OF PEACE AND SECURITY OF ALL PEOPLES; (2) "DISSEMINATION OF MARXIST-LENINIST WORLD VIEW" AND, (3) "STRUGGLE AGAINST BOURGEOIS IDEOLOGY."

5. COMMUNIQUE DOES NOT MENTION COMMUNIST CONFERENCE OR CONFERENCES, BUT PONOMAREV (WHO HANDLES RELATIONS WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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NON-RULING PARTIES) WAS LISTED ALONG WITH SUSLOV (WHO ACTED AS HOST) AS A SOVIET SPEAKER. SINCE PONOMAREV IS JUNIOR TO DEMICHEV (WHOSE BAG IS IDEOLOGY AND WHO DID NOT SPEAK), WE ASSUME PONOMAREV' INTERVENTION WAS DICTATED BY SUBJECT MATTER RATHER THAN PROTOCOL. MOREOVER, LONG PRAVDA THEORETICAL ARTICLE DECEMBER 21 (SEPTTEL) APPEARS DESIGNED TO SET IDEOLOGICAL BASES FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

6. COMMUNIQUE MAKES NO MENTION OF CHINA--AN UNDER-
STANDABLE OMISSION IN VIEW OF ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION.

7. COMMENT: TREATMENT OF CP SECRETARY MEETING LENDS
SOME--BUT FAR FROM CONCLUSIVE--SUPPORT TO REPORT (REFTEL)
THAT SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAS DECIDED TO TAKE SOFTER AND MORE
POSITIVE APPROACH TO IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE.SOMMERLATTE

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